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PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
**FIFTEENTH CONVENTION OF SIGMA XI**  
**ATLANTA, GEORGIA, DECEMBER 30, 1913**

The fifteenth convention of the Society of the Sigma Xi was called to order in room No. 123 of the Piedmont Hotel at 2 P.M., President J. McKeen Cattell presiding. The President appointed a Committee on Credentials, consisting of Dayton C. Miller, J. C. Merriam, and Herbert Osborn. This committee reported twenty-one chapters represented by proper delegates presenting credentials, as follows:

California	J. C. Merriam
Case	Charles S. Howe, H. W. Springsteen, Dayton C. Miller
Chicago	Rollin T. Chamberlin
Columbia	J. McKeen Cattell
Cornell	Edward L. Nichols, William A. Riley
Illinois	F. Smith, H. V. Neal
Indiana	F. M. Andrews.
Iowa	T. H. Macbride, G. W. Stewart, C. C. Nutting, G. F. Kay
Kansas	S. J. Hunter, J. E. Todd, Charles A. Shull
Michigan	K. E. Guthe, W. F. Colby
Minnesota	D. F. MacDougal
Missouri	Max Mayer
Northwestern	William A. Locy
Ohio State	Edward Orton, Jr., A. D. Cole, Herbert Osborn, Robt. F. Griggs
Pennsylvania	Lightner Witmer
Purdue	J. M. Aldrich
Rensselaer	Edward F. Chillman
Union	Edward Ellery
Washington State	T. C. Frye
Wisconsin	George C. Comstock
Yale	Joseph Hyde Pratt

It was voted that the minutes of the Cleveland meeting be approved as printed in the *SIGMA XI QUARTERLY* (Vol. I, No. 1).

The report of the Treasurer was read by the Recording Secretary. This report in full is appended to these minutes. President Cattell appointed Carleton C. Curtis of Columbia Chapter as auditor of the Treasurer's report.

Edward L. Nichols of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments made a report of progress, substantially the same as given on pages 86, 87-89, and 94-99, of the SIGMA XI QUARTERLY for December, 1913. It was voted that the Society proceed to the consideration of the proposed amendments to the Constitution as submitted by the committee. Edward L. Nichols spoke in favor of the first amendment, which proposed to add the class of "associate members" to the class of "active members" now existing.

Charles S. Howe moved that a form of membership that requires qualifications less severe than that for active membership is advisable. This motion was discussed at considerable length. Some of the opinions expressed are as follows: Purdue, the motion is favored; Union, favors the idea of dual membership, but not the names active and associate; Ohio, strongly in favor of the new class of members; Chicago, California, Michigan, and Washington State, all favor the two classes of membership. Edward L. Nichols continued the discussion and remarked that the Society should encourage the recognition of the general principle that every professor and every man considered for a promotion to a professorship should be a productive scholar. The Society should be able to say that its full members are all such scholars, and that faculties of colleges and universities should contain only such men. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was carried.

Upon motion by Edward Orton, it was voted that the Society proceed to the consideration of Section 2, (a) and (b), SIGMA XI QUARTERLY, December, 1913, page 95. It was moved by J. C. Merriam that it is desirable that the two classes of members be called "active members" and "associate members." This motion was discussed at length. Union expressed the opinion that the term "member" is not distinctive enough, since the qualifications "associate" and "active" will often be overlooked. It is considered important to have a distinctive word like "fellow," which designation is favored by Union. Edward L. Nichols stated that the terms which had been considered by the committee were "associates" and "members", "fellows" and "members", and "associate members" and "active members". After further discussion the motion was carried by a standing vote, fifteen voting in favor of the motion and six against it.

Upon motion of Edward Ellery, it was voted that the convention proceed to the consideration of Section 4. It was voted that the Committee on Constitutional Amendments be instructed to describe more specifically the requirements for associate member-

ship. Special mention was made of the specifications for membership as defined by the Ohio State Chapter (*SIGMA XI QUARTERLY*, December, 1913, page 96).

Upon motion by Charles S. Howe, it was voted that all of the amendments which have been considered be referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, and that the President be instructed to appoint a third member representing engineering schools in place of the member who has resigned. President Cattell later appointed Charles S. Howe of the Case Chapter as a member of this committee.

The Committee on Admission of Chapters, Professor Williams, chairman, reported progress. It was voted that the committee be continued. The detailed report of the committee follows:

Ithaca, New York, December 23, 1913.

To the Convention of the Sigma Xi, Meeting at Atlanta, Ga.:

Report of the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution of Sigma Xi, proposed by the Minnesota Chapter:

At the fourteenth convention, held in Cleveland, Ohio, on January 2, 1913, certain amendments to the Constitution of Sigma Xi proposed by the Minnesota Chapter were presented and discussed. Thereupon it was voted by the convention that a committee of five be appointed, "who should formulate changes in the Constitution and report at the next convention."

The following persons were appointed members of the committee, viz:

H. S. Williams, Cornell, Chairman  
F. R. Watson, Illinois, Secretary  
J. McK. Cattell, Columbia  
Julius Stieglitz, Chicago  
H. T. Eddy, Minnesota

(See *SIGMA XI QUARTERLY*, volume I, page 11.)

It has been found impracticable to hold a formal meeting of the committee, but the chairman in pursuance of the instructions of the Convention has corresponded with the several chapters, through their corresponding secretaries, in order to gather evidence as to the sentiments of the chapters regarding the changes proposed. The replies have been so divergent and so meager and the objections to the amendments as they stand have been so positive in some of the replies, that it has seemed to the chairman unwise to make any attempt at the present time to formulate changes of the Constitution along the lines suggested by the Minnesota Chapter.

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This opinion having been concurred in by the other members of the committee, this brief report of progress is offered in behalf of the committee with the request that the committee be continued.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY S. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

In the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, the report of the latter was read in part by the Recording Secretary. The report in full is printed in this number of the SIGMA XI QUARTERLY.

Upon motion by Edward Orton, it was voted that it is the sense of this meeting that the publication of the SIGMA XI QUARTERLY be continued, and that adequate financial arrangements be made to meet the expenses, substantially in accordance with the report of the Corresponding Secretary.

Upon motion by Charles S. Howe, it was voted that an assessment of seventy-five cents per active member be levied on the chapters for the coming year. It was stated that the operating expenses of the Society are approximately twenty-five cents per active member per year, and that the amount of the assessment would, therefore, leave about fifty cents per active member to meet the expenses of the QUARTERLY.

Upon motion by Charles S. Howe, it was voted that the Corresponding Secretary, Henry B. Ward, be appointed managing editor of the QUARTERLY for the coming year.

It was voted that the President appoint an editorial committee to cooperate with the managing editor in conducting the QUARTERLY.

It was voted that the thanks of the Society be returned to Henry B. Ward for his very valuable and enthusiastic work in editing and issuing the QUARTERLY for the past year.

It was announced that the term of office of the Corresponding Secretary had expired a year ago, at the time of the Cleveland meeting, which fact had been overlooked. It was voted that Henry B. Ward be elected Corresponding Secretary for the term of four years, beginning with the Cleveland meeting. It was voted that the Secretary be instructed to cast the ballot of the Society for Henry B. Ward as Corresponding Secretary. The ballot was cast and the election was announced.

The Society adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

The convention was continued by a banquet held in the evening, a report of which is attached to these minutes.

DAYTON C. MILLER

Recording Secretary

## REPORT OF THE SIGMA XI DINNER AT ATLANTA

The Sigma Xi dinner was held on the evening of December 30, 1913, at the Piedmont Driving Club, Atlanta. There were fifty-three delegates and guests present, including eight ladies. The arrangements proved to be exceedingly satisfactory, and afterwards there were informal reports from nineteen chapters, as follows: Cornell, Edward L. Nichols; Union, Edward Ellery; Kansas, R. K. Duncan; Minnesota, D. T. MacDougal; Ohio, Edward Orton, Jr.; Indiana, F. M. Andrews; Illinois, F. Smith; Iowa, T. H. Macbride; Wisconsin, G. C. Comstock; Michigan, K. E. Guthe; Missouri, Max Meyer; Pennsylvania, Lightner Witmer; California, J. C. Merriam; Chicago, R. T. Chamberlin; Case, Charles S. Howe; Purdue, J. M. Aldrich; Washington State, T. C. Frye; Columbia, J. McK. Cattell; Yale, Joseph Hyde Pratt.

A pleasant incident of the evening was the toast proposed by Charles S. Howe to the first Sigma Xi bride, Mrs. A. A. Potter, who had honored the Society with her presence at a banquet.

The following is a list of the guests present:

NAME	CHAPTER	LOCATION
J. M. Aldrich	Kansas	Moscow, Idaho
F. M. Andrews	Indiana	Bloomington, Ind.
R. B. Bean	Michigan	New Orleans, La.
Gordon N. Bentley	Cornell	Knoxville, Tenn.
E. W. Berger	Ohio State	Gainesville, Fla.
Mr. Berry*	*	*
Edward B. Block	Minnesota	Atlanta, Ga.
Charles Brookover	Chicago	Akron, Ohio
Mrs. Charles Brookover		
J. McK. Cattell	Columbia	New York City
R. T. Chamberlin	Chicago	Chicago, Ill.
J. Henry Clo	Chicago	New Orleans, La.
A. D. Cole	Ohio State	Columbus, Ohio
G. M. Comstock	Wisconsin	Madison, Wis.
M. T. Cook	Ohio State	New Brunswick, N. J.
Robt. K. Duncan	Kansas	Lawrence, Kansas
Frederick Dunlap	Michigan	Washington, D. C.
Edward Ellery	Union	Schenectady, N. Y.
H. A. Erickson	Minnesota	Minneapolis, Minn.
T. C. Frye	Washington State	Seattle, Wash.
Miss Eloise Gerry	*	*
K. E. Guthe	Iowa	Ann Arbor, Mich.
R. F. Griggs	Ohio State	Columbus, Ohio
Harvey M. Hall	California	Berkeley, Calif.
Harrison L. Harley	*	*
J. A. Holmes	Cornell	Washington, D. C.
Charles S. Howe	Case	Cleveland, Ohio
W. J. Humphreys	*	Washington, D. C.
Mrs. W. J. Humphreys		
John B. Johnston	Minnesota	Minneapolis, Minn.

\*Initials, chapter, or location not recorded.

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NAME	CHAPTER	LOCATION
D. T. MacDougal	Minnesota	Tucson, Ariz.
T. H. Macbride	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa
J. C. Merriam	California	Berkeley, Cal.
Mrs. J. C. Merriam		
Max Meyer	Missouri	Columbia, Mo.
Dayton C. Miller	Case	Cleveland, Ohio
Mrs. D. C. Miller		
H. V. Neal	Illinois	Tufts College, Mass.
F. C. Newcombe	Michigan	Ann Arbor, Mich.
E. L. Nichols	Cornell	Ithaca, N. Y.
Mrs. E. L. Nichols		
Edward Orton, Jr.	Ohio State	Columbus, Ohio.
Mrs. Edward Orton, Jr.		
Alden A. Potter	Minnesota	Washington, D. C.
Mrs. A. A. Potter	Minnesota	
Joseph Hyde Pratt	Yale	Chapel Hill, N. C.
G. A. Rankin	Cornell	Washington, D. C.
Frank Smith	Illinois	Urbana, Ill.
H. W. Springsteen	Case	Cleveland, Ohio
G. W. Stewart	Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa
H. E. Summers	Cornell	Ames, Iowa
F. F. Wesbrook	Minnesota	Minneapolis, Minn.
Lightner Witmer	Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, Pa.

*REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY*

Three years ago, at the Washington convention, the officers of the Society were authorized to enter into a contract for printing a volume which should contain a history of the organization during the twenty-five years of its existence, then drawing near a close, and also give a list of all members enrolled on its chapter records. After some correspondence, a contract was closed with the Lakeside Press, R. R. Donnelley & Sons Co., of Chicago, and the Minneapolis convention ratified this action. The contract was signed by the officers of the Society on February 14, 1912, and the printer began soon after that date. The labor involved in completing the work proved more extensive than anticipated, and the finished book was not delivered by the printers until May, 1913. The Lakeside Press succeeded in producing a volume of very attractive appearance, and, considering the character of the work, one that is remarkably free from errors.

The volume commands the attention of all who have not followed with care the recent growth of the Sigma Xi. It contains 542 pages of historical data, and the names and professional positions of 7,498 members. Thus the total membership of the Society on January 1, 1912, arranged according to chapters, far exceeds the anticipations of chapter officers and the calculations of recent convention reports. The book also contains an alphabetic and a geographic